

## **MINUTES**

### **UTAH SOCIAL WORKER LICENSING BOARD MEETING**

**April 7, 2016**

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.**

**Heber M. Wells Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

**CONVENED:** 9:02 A.M.

**ADJOURNED:** 10:47 A.M.

**Bureau Manager:**

Dane Ishihara

**Board Secretary:**

Lee Avery

**Board Members Present:**

Donna Didas, Vice Chairperson  
Mandy Donavan  
Jenafer Newman  
Nathan Strait  
Tanya Nagahiro

**Board Members Excused:**

Doran Williams, Chairperson  
Kathleen Anderson

**DOPL Staff Present:**

Susan Higgs, Compliance Specialist  
Morgyn Broadhead, Licensing Specialist

**Guests:**

Tami Phelps, Argosy University  
Katie Rindlesplash, Argosy University  
Logan Roberts, Argosy University  
Kimberly Schneider, Argosy University  
Ruth Gernsten-McKane

#### **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

##### **MINUTES:**

The Board reviewed the minutes dated February 11, 2016. Mr. Strait made a motion to approve the minutes with changes. Ms. Newman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

##### **COMPLIANCE REPORT:**

Ms. Higgs reviewed the compliance report with the Board.

Ms. Higgs reviewed the probation report with the Board.

Mr. Larsen continues to submit all of his paperwork on time. He has been on probation over half of his term.

Mr. Poulson has not been working in the field since his probation started. He first met with the Board in 2013. He is now interested in working in the field. The Board reviewed the probation plan he submitted in 2013. He is starting his probation now, he needs to complete twenty CEs for the first year, and then he will need to complete five CEs in addition to those required for renewal. When his CEs are completed, he needs to submit a 500-word essay. His probation will start from the date he starts working. He may be seeing a therapist. The Board needs to clarify this. Mr. Poulson has not submitted his therapy reports.

Mr. Meade's last supervisor report was received in December. He has submitted all of the documentation required by his stipulation. He has completed half of his probation term.

#### **APPOINTMENTS:**

Kent Larson, probation interview

Mr. Larson met with the Board. Mr. Strait conducted the interview. The Board reviewed his supervisors' reports, from both supervisors and these indicate that things are looking good. Mr. Larson stated he has been learning trauma focused therapy. He continues working towards his certification in trauma focused therapy and has a few clients who are trauma clients. Mr. Larson stated that he continues keeping his desk clean and organized. This is helping him stay on track and he has not lost information. He continues working to keep his interactions with co-workers positive. He now recognizes that his vision problems do not allow him to always notice the physical clues from co-workers or clients. He is working to keep the distance comfortable for them. The Board noted the insight and positive changes Mr. Larson he has made and encouraged him to continue in this direction. The Board asked to see Mr. Larson August 4, 2016.

Gary Poulson, probation interview

Mr. Poulson met with the Board. His proposed supervisor, Dr. Ruth Erickson, accompanied Mr. Poulson. Ms. Didas conducted the interview. Mr.

Poulson stated he is looking for employment in the field. He thought he had employment lined up at the agency he used to work for; however, they have not severed ties with the previous owners. The previous owner is awaiting numerous criminal charges related to the way his agency was ran. Mr. Poulson stated he will not work for this individual and declined the offer. Mr. Poulson stated he understands this may change and if it does, he might reconsider working for them as long as the previous owner has no connections to the agency. Mr. Poulson is proposing Dr. Ruth Erickson for his supervisor. Dr. Erickson stated she reviewed his stipulation. She will hold him to a high standard. Their concern is that she had a professional work history with Mr. Poulson in the past. The Board encouraged Mr. Poulson to submit Dr. Erickson's resume for consideration. The will need to amend his stipulation regarding supervision. The Board advised Mr. Poulson that the Board is looking forward to the reconfiguration of his former agency. The Board encouraged Mr. Poulson to keep Ms. Higgs updated. Mr. Poulson stated he had an appointment to see a mental health therapist, however, his insurance changed. As soon as this is resolved, he will submit a resume from his therapist. His recovery support is family and friends. He has been sober for fourteen years. The Board asked to see Mr. Poulson June 2, 2016.

#### Jerry Meade, probation interview

Mr. Meade met with the Board. Ms. Donovan conducted the interview. Mr. Meade advised the Board that his health issues have returned. There have been no other changes. He continues to meet with his supervisor every other week. The Board has not received his supervision reports since December. Mr. Meade stated he is seeing his therapist later today and will remind him to submit these reports. He continues working with the church ministries. The Board noted that Mr. Meade has completed over half of his probation term and has consistently complied with his stipulation. The Board encouraged Mr. Meade to submit a letter requesting early termination of his probation. His supervisor will need to submit a letter supporting early termination of his probation too. Both letters need to be submitted to Ms. Higgs. The Board will review them and make a motion at the Board meeting June 2, 2016; otherwise, the Board will see

Mr. Meade August 4, 2016.

**NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Review proposed language change regarding continuing education requirement R156-60a-304

Mr. Ishihara reviewed proposed language and format change regarding R156-60a-304 with the Board. Mr. Ishihara stated he would be reviewing this with all of the mental health Board members at the Board member training on May 9<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ishihara encouraged members to contact him with suggestions.

ASWB Conference attendance and scholarships

**Not on the agenda:**

The Board asked about attending the ASWB Conferences again. Mr. Ishihara will follow-up with ASWB for details.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**

June 2, 2016

**2016 Board meetings tentatively scheduled**

June 2, August 4, October 6, December 1

**ADJOURN:**


Motion to adjourn at: 10:47 A.M.

*Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.*

6/2/16  
Date Approved

(ss)   
Chairperson, Utah Social Worker Licensing Board

June 2, 2016  
Date Approved

(ss)   
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing